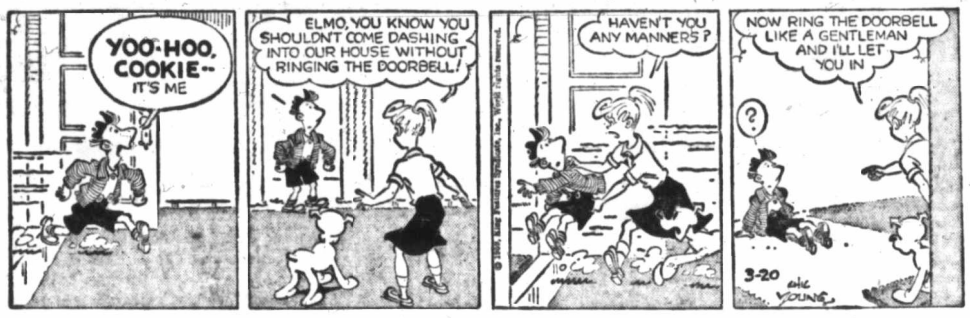
SKY MASTERS

JUDGE PARKER

BLONDIE



BEN BOLT

LIL ABNER

REX MORGAN

ARCHIE

JULIE JONES

POGO

RIP KIRBY

Garden Notes

Keep Layout Simple

By M. V. CHESNUT, FRHS

I have been getting quite a few letters this past month from new home owners asking for help in the design of their new gardens. Some of these folks have gone to quite a lot of trouble making scale drawings of the lot showing the placement of the house and existing trees.

I like to be neighborly and I hate to turn anyone down, but I am just no good at this kind of thing—partly because I am no hand with a pencil and can't even draw a straight line properly, and partly because I am a lousy landscape architect.

I get too interested in the quirks and foibles of individual plants to have any eye for the broad picture, and my own garden, with dozens of single plants being grown experimentally, is a hopeless mess from an aesthetic point of view.

* * *

There are a few broad principles I can give you, though, to help you in the working out of your own design, and the first and most important of these is—keep it simple. Both from the standpoint of appearance, and to save yourself endless hours of needless work, the design and layout of the garden should be kept as simple as possible.

Avoid aimless, wandering paths and a multiplicity of small, odd-shaped flower beds scattered all over the place. Keep the edges of your beds either straight or in bold, sweeping curves—you'll regret a lot of silly little squiggles when the time comes for trimming the edges.

Try to fix things so you can run the lawn mower right up to and over the edge of the lawn, for keeping the edges trimmed by hand is just about the most boring and wearisome task in gardening.

* * *

In the planting up of mixed flower beds such as the perennial border, one very common mistake is to place all the tall plants in the back row, all the plants of medium height in the middle, and all the dwarf subjects lined up in front. This gives a stiff, regimented appearance, like school children in a class photograph.

The trick with beds of mixed subjects is to bring a few clumps of the tall specimens well forward here and there along the length of the bed. This makes for a more informal appearance, breaking the stiffness, and creating a series of "bays" within the bed, each one opening up a new vista of color.

Another common mistake in planting up the perennial border is to set out the plants singly—one delphinium here, a single Michaelmas daisy there, and one lone perennial phlox over here. This gives a thin, patchy effect.

* * *

It is much better to group the plants in clumps of three of more specimens—a triangle of three goldenrods here, a square yard of dwarf bellflowers there, and half a dozen speckled white foxgloves occupying a bay to themselves over here.

If you are sitting your perennial bed against the background of a hedge or fence, it is a good idea to leave room at the back for a path between the back edge of the bed and the background hedge. Perennial beds must be pretty wide to look like anything, and unless some means of access is provided, you can't get at the back row for weeding, staking and tying, nor can you reach the background hedge for trimming.

The path doesn't have to be a wide one—just big enough to let you get in there to do the chores—and it needn't show at all from the front of the bed.

The Viewing World

By John Crosby

The Peter Pan of TV

Bob Cummings is a remarkable and perhaps frightening fellow. He has been in show business since roughly the dawn of civilization; yet he looks like a young fellow fresh out of college whose chief interest is girls. In fact, he plays such a fellow with great bounce, charm and conviction on the Bob Cummings show, which is beginning to cover the globe.

At coffee he reported gleefully that the series is now in Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, Cyprus, and places like that. It's also on the U.S. Armed Forces Network where people of many extractions bootleg it by monkeying with their dials.

"In Spain they sell little gadgets that will fix the set so Spaniards can look at the show. I've got letters from Turkey and Greece and from behind the Iron Curtain. Mostly they love Grandpa. (Besides playing a dewy youth, Cummings plays his own grandpa conceivably as penance for looking so eternally youthful.) They love him."

* * *

How do they manage to get the joke, if there are no subtitles, I asked. "Well, girls are girls, anywhere," said Cummings. "It's a subject that doesn't require explanation."

Cummings may be doing vast damage to U.S. public relations abroad, as a matter of fact. American men the world over are known as a nation of boys who are singularly reluctant to grow up. The perpetual spring of Robert Cummings, can only intrench this idea further. How the devil—I use the word advisedly because I thought he might have sold his soul to him — did he stay so young?

"Proper nutrition," declared Cummings heartily. Cummings' father was a doctor who has a bug (though that's not the word Cummings or his father used) on the subject of nutrition. For the better part of his life, Dr. Cummings worked to improve people's diet and Cummings had diet drilled into him from an early age. "My father used to say 'You are what you eat.' It isn't your fault if you don't feel well. It's your ignorance about diet."

* * *

No one is more surprised than Cummings that his show, which has never been classified as great art, is still going strong after five years.

"I started out as a dramatic actor and got into comedy very much by accident. They asked me if I'd like to do an anthology. But in an anthology you have to keep changing your makeup. In my show I don't wear makeup. Also, in an anthology you have to keep waiting for those scripts to come in—and if they don't come in, you don't eat."

The situation comedies are all an essentially one-joke operation. That is, there is a basic gag that is worked and reworked in all of them and Cummings' show is no exception. To me, it's inconceivable that anyone could watch these things week after week without the joke getting awfully stale. Does his show have a loyal audience?

"Sure. In my own little world, everybody I meet tells me the plots of my shows, even when I've forgotten them. Or they write to say which are their favorite plots. That isn't just being nice—they can't fake that. The sponsor told me we had family acceptance and I thought those were just words. But when we moved from eight to nine-thirty we got snowed under with protests from kids who couldn't watch it any longer."

* * *

Though his public image is that of the perpetually smiling, wisecracking juvenile, Cummings is a serious actor and a good one. He did a fine job of acting in "Bomber's Moon" as a bomber pilot who was a coward. "I like to do 'Playhouse 90' when there's a good part. It's like doing a full-length movie in one take. A lot of actors can't do it. I guess an actor likes to do things to prove and reprove himself."

"Live television is like a football game. You put the ball under your arm and run for all you're worth. I remember when we did 'Twelve Angry Men,' a whole set fell down and there was an awful racket. But the sound man saw it coming and shut off the sound—and the cameras were faced in another direction so they missed it. The audience knew nothing about it but the actors were so stunned they forgot their lines. Then Eddie Arnold picked up a line and we came back to life.

"Oh, it's a great life—acting. But I wouldn't have any other. I'm a completely contented actor."

Perhaps that's why he looks so young.

Hollywood Today

By Sheilah Graham

Restless Cary Marks Time

HOLLYWOOD (NANA)—Universal-International has given **Cary Grant** a private telephone in his dressing room for the duration of "Operation Petticoat." Between takes Cary calls overseas—Paris, Madrid, London, Rome. And, when the picture is finished, Cary will be off on his travels again.

* * *

Paul Gregory is a gambler. Neither of his two stars, **Claudette Colbert,** nor **Charles Boyer,** in the Broadway smash, "Marriage-Go-Round," has an understudy—so, if either gets sick, the show closes. Recently, Charles played for a week with laryngitis and a 102 temperature, but didn't miss a performance.

* * *

Doris Day takes a week's vacation in Sun Valley in April—after she finishes her picture with **Rock Hudson,** "Any Way the Wind Blows." Then Doris reports to Columbia for "Who Is Sylvia?"

* * *

Pat Conway and **Dick Eastham,** co-stars of Ziv's "Tombstone Territory," are the subjects of a new series of bubblegum picture cards. Looks like western stars are replacing ballplayers and presidents in the kiddie bubblegum league.

Winning Contract

By SCHENCKEN AND FREY

Vul: E-W

NORTH
♠ Q 3
♡ 4
◇ A K 8 7 6 4
♣ Q 6 5 4

WEST
♠ J 9 7 5 2
♡ A 9 6 2
◇ 5 2
♣ 10 9

EAST
♠ 10 6
♡ Q J 10 5 3
◇ J
♣ A K J 8 3

SOUTH (D)
♠ A K 8 4
♡ K 8 7
◇ Q 10 9 3
♣ 7 2

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ◇	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ◇	Pass	3 ◇	Pass
3 N.T.	Pass	Pass	Dbl.
All Pass			

Opening lead: ♣ 10

South had a somewhat doubtful but correct first-seat opener. North temporized with two clubs, and South was forced to rebid his four-carder. Not wishing to go above the three no-trump level, North simply raised to three diamonds, which South should have been happy to pass.

East doubled the final call for a club lead. It is conventional, when neither defender has bid, to double for the lead of the first suit bid by dummy.

North, who felt he had slightly underbid his hand, decided to gamble it out in spite of his very poor club suit, and the result was disaster. East-West won the first 10 tricks in clubs and hearts for a six-trick set, and a score of 1,100.

Strangely enough, at those tables where North bid three diamonds over South's one-diamond call, the final contract was the same, but declarer in most cases got a spade lead and made nine tricks in diamonds and spades. One unfortunate West led a low heart, and his opponents made 10 tricks for a top score.

Moral: The less your bidding tells your opponents, the more difficult it is for them to defend.

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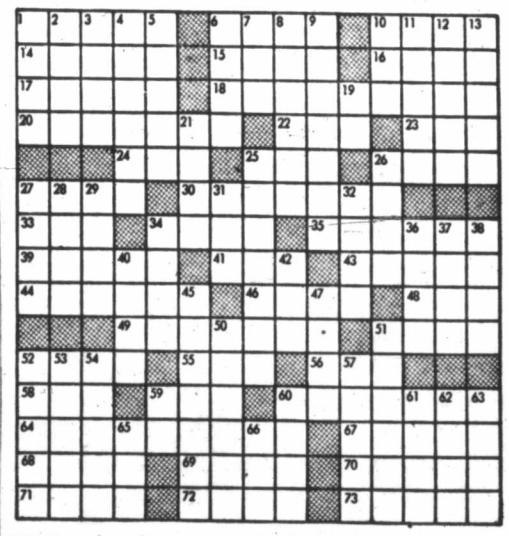
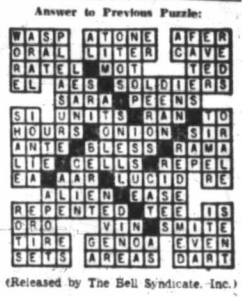
The Daily Cross-Word Puzzle . . .



ACROSS
1. Chirp.
6. S. Korean soldiers.
10. Inquires.
14. Equine animal.
15. Prepare for print.
16. Rockfish.
17. Join.
18. Took reputation from.
20. City of India.
22. Color.
23. Hindu cymbals.
24. Sound enjoining silence.
25. Japanese coin.
26. Bulk.
27. Low.
30. ... and lightning.
33. Emmet.
34. Couple.
35. Treats maliciously.
39. Condition.
41. Metal container.
43. A pointed arch.
44. Continued story.
46. A swell. (slang pl.).
48. Confederate general.
49. In proportion.
51. Number (pl.).
52. Stuffs.
55. Commander (abbr.).
56. Guido's high note.
58. Anger.
59. Cry of sheep.
60. Ranking archbishop.
64. Consulter.
67. Feudal noble's estate.
68. S. African fox.
69. Former Roman emperor.
70. Fetch.
71. To sow.
72. Harem rooms.
73. Business transactions.

DOWN
1. Fresh-water fish.
2. To sharpen.
3. Ireland.
4. Landed property.
5. Equals.
6. Communists.
7. Poem.
8. Young of cat.
9. Shores.
10. Part of circle.
11. Bout.
12. To work with the hands as dough.
13. Grievously.
19. Article.
21. Girl's name.
28. River of S. America.
26. Ship's jail.
27. Fish.
28. Poker stake.
29. Asterisk.
31. Stage success.
32. Epic poetry.
34. Fruit.
36. Piece of fired clay.
37. Level.
38. Observes.
40. Gratuities.
42. Word of negation.
45. City of Switzerland.
47. Former heavyweight champion.
56. Bellowed.
54. Queen of the Goths.
52. Size of type (pl.).
53. Got up.
54. Thick.
57. Part of tree (pl.).
59. Exist.
60. Paid athletes.
61. Indigo.
62. Sound quality.
63. Unit of energy (pl.).
65. Gave sustenance to.
66. Period of time.

Answer to Previous Puzzle:



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